

THE QUABBIN DEER HUNTER

Vol. 15, No. 1, Summer 2013

NEWSLETTER



Hunter Sets New Quabbin Record!

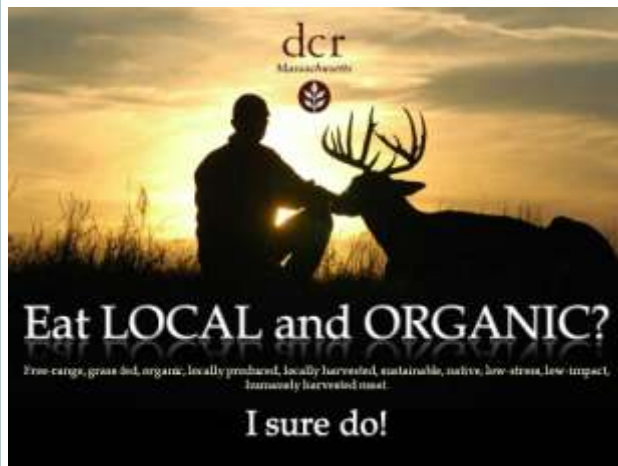
A long-standing record for the largest deer taken at Quabbin was broken during the 2012 deer hunt. Long-time Quabbin hunter, Rob Roy, tagged a 211 pound monster in the Pelham block during the first day of the hunt. Rob was hunting one of his favorite sections in the main block of Pelham when he shot the deer. High on a ridge, Rob dragged the deer down to the water's edge where he was met by a DCR boat and Rangers who helped him load it and transport it to the Gate 8 deer check station. Rob's deer beats the former record of 206 pounds first achieved in 1995 in the Pelham block by Dave Supczak and later tied by Randy Horne during the 2003 hunt in Petersham.



New Hunter Survey

Enclosed is a hunter survey we're asking all hunters to fill out and return (in provided envelope). It's been several years since our last survey, and the DCR uses this opportunity to assess hunter's perceptions, level of satisfaction, and suggestions. The DCR has made great strides in accomplishing our land management goals of forest regeneration through deer density reduction. Hunters are the main reason for our success. Not surprisingly, as deer densities have decreased from their pre-hunt highs and forest conditions have changed dramatically allowing deer more cover and easier hiding places, deer hunters are faced with more challenging hunting conditions. While hunter harvest will fluctuate from year to year, we believe the Quabbin offers a quality hunting experience well beyond whether a deer is harvested or not. In addition, in this age when we're encouraged to

buy local, remember that deer are a renewable source of locally grown and organically fed food.



The Quabbin Deer Hunter

Quabbin Reservation

Vol. 15, No. 1 • Summer 2013

The 2012 Hunt

The 2012 deer hunt was the third year of a 5-year rotation, and Petersham was not hunted. About 1300 hunters applied for the hunt, and almost 91% (1150) were selected. Just over 930 hunters attended the hunt. The total harvest for the four days was 84 deer, representing a hunter success rate of about 9%.

The following section details the results from each hunting block. The “Quick Facts” in the box in each section summarizes statistics that hunters most often inquire about.

New Salem

New Salem hunters were met with light rain and chilly weather on the first day. Almost 200 hunters (86%) showed up to the hunt, and they harvested 17 deer. That equals a success rate of 8.5%.

QUICK FACTS

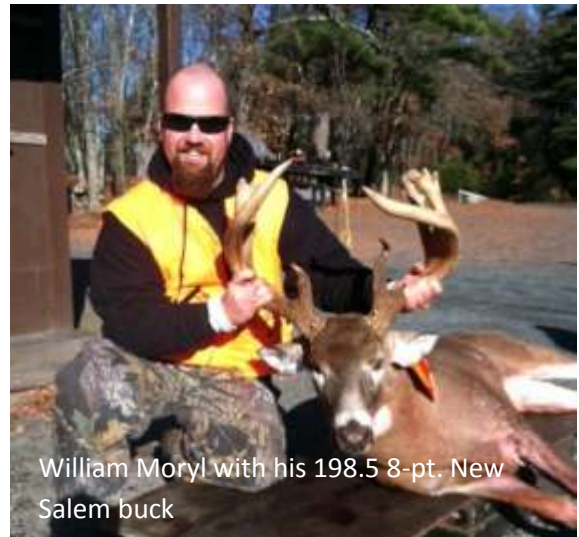
BIGGEST BUCK

- 198.5 pounds
- 3.5 years old
- William Moryl

BIGGEST DOE

- 137 pounds
- 3.5 years old
- Robert Lanagan

	Adult	Yrling	Fawn	%	Total
Male	6	2	5	76.5	13
Female	2	2	0	23.5	4
%	47.1	23.5	29.4		
Total	8	4	5		17



William Moryl with his 198.5 8-pt. New Salem buck

Pelham

Pelham hunters saw a dusting of snow on the first day, but it didn't last long. About 230 (83%) hunters attended the 2-day hunt, and they harvested 18 deer, including several large bucks. Hunters killed 1.0 deer/mi². Success rate in the Pelham block was 7.8%.

	Adult	Yrling	Fawn	%	Total
Male	3	4	2	50.0	9
Female	7	1	1	50.0	9
%	55.5	27.8	11.1		
Total	10	5	2		18

The Quabbin Deer Hunter

Quabbin Reservation

Vol. 15, No. 1 • Summer 2013

QUICK FACTS

BIGGEST BUCK

- 211 pounds
- 3.5 years old
- Rob Roy

BIGGEST DOE

- 139.5 pounds
- 3.5 years old
- Gary Lederer

	Adult	Yrling	Fawn	%	Total
Male	8	4	3	57.5	15
Female	8	3	0	42.3	11
%	61.5	26.9	11.5		
Total	16	7	3		26



Thomas Whitman with his 11-pt. 190 pound Prescott buck.

Prescott

Prescott hunters experienced an average hunting year in 2012. Hunter attendance was similar to other areas; about 350 (86%) attended the hunt. Hunters harvested 1.7 deer/mi², and hunter success was about 8%. Prescott hunters killed 26 deer, which is up from 2011.

QUICK FACTS

BIGGEST BUCK

- 190 pounds
- 3.5 years old
- Thomas Whitman

BIGGEST DOE

- 132 pounds
- 3.5 years old
- Seth Beal

Hardwick

Hardwick was coming off a rest year, and hunter anticipation is typically higher. Hardwick hunters certainly experienced the best results from the 2012 hunt. Hunters harvested 23 deer, which is a success rate of about 15%. About 160 (84%) hunters killed 1.6 deer/mi².

QUICK FACTS

BIGGEST BUCK

- 162 pounds
- 3.5 years old
- Mark Poggi

BIGGEST DOE

- 134 pounds
- 3.5 years old
- Christopher Kent

The Quabbin Deer Hunter

Quabbin Reservation

Vol. 15, No. 1 • Summer 2013

	Adult	Yrling	Fawn	%	Total
Male	4	3	2	39.1	9
Female	13	0	1	60.9	14
%	73.9	13.0	13.0		
Total	17	3	3		23



The 2013 Hunt

Quite a few changes were made during last year's hunt (2012), and all of these will carry over into this year's hunt. We will continue along our rotation schedule, and Prescott will not be hunted this year. Petersham will be added back into the hunt. Each block will be hunted for one 2-day segment.

Application fees will remain at \$5/hunter. Unfortunately, we were unable to transition the application online, so we will continue with paper applications (enclosed) until we can work out an online program. Antlerless permits will be optional again this year.

Antlerless permits can be purchased online again through the MassFishHunt website.

Car scouting will again be the weekend before Thanksgiving and is scheduled for November 23-24. Car scouting hours will be 8:00 am – 3:00 pm. Hunters are encouraged to take advantage of this opportunity and are reminded that car scouting is for Quabbin hunters only and no firearms are allowed.

The 2013 Quabbin deer hunt application is available online at the DCR website:

<http://www.mass.gov/dcr/waterSupply.htm>

We have included an application for your convenience.

The 2013 Quabbin hunt is scheduled for the following days:

Pelham/New Salem: Dec. 5-6, 2013

Hardwick/Petersham: Dec. 12-13, 2013

PLEASE COMPLETE THE ENCLOSED SURVEY AND RETURN IT (WITH YOUR APPLICATION) IN THE PROVIDED ENVELOPE.

Any questions? Call Kiana Koenen at 413-323-6921 ext. 163 or e-mail her at kiana.koenen@state.ma.us